

NEW MUSEUM TO PRESENT THE FIRST SOLO SHOW IN A US MUSEUM BY MEXICAN ARTIST MARIANA CASTILLO DEBALL



Cover Image: "Mariana Castillo Deball: Vista de Ojos," 2014. Exhibition view: kurimanzutto, Mexico City. Courtesy the artist and kurimanzutto, Mexico City. Photo: Studio Michel Zabé

New York, NY...The New Museum is pleased to present "**Mariana Castillo Deball: Finding Oneself Outside,**" on view from January 22 to April 14, 2019. The artist's first solo show in a US museum will bring together a newly commissioned work and recent works never before seen in New York, installed in the New Museum's 231 Galleries.

Working in sculpture, printmaking, photography, and installation, Mariana Castillo Deball (b. 1975, Mexico City, Mexico) examines how knowledge and cultural heritage are produced, organized, measured, and authenticated. Her works often take inspiration from Mesoamerican iconography and narratives, considering their early-colonial transformations and their presence in Central America today. Exploring her philosophical interest in time and space as well as cosmology and depictions of natural order, Castillo Deball has engaged a diverse range of scholars in her research. Her works and installations often reflect Surrealist writer Roger Caillois's notion of "diagonal sciences"—unusual cross-sections of the world that reveal what he called "neglected correlations," and "tissues of thought."

The title of Castillo Deball's New Museum exhibition, "Finding Oneself Outside," offers a possible description of a sensation that is central to both the study of history and the experience of encountering an unfamiliar culture. The exhibition's centerpiece, a specially commissioned inlaid wood floor installation, draws from an early colonial map of San Pedro Teozacoalco, Mexico, which bears a unique stylistic blend of European maps and Mixtec codices of the sixteenth century. A large-scale sculpture, *No solid form can contain you* (2010), offers a peculiar visualization of space as a would-be mold turned inside out—panels cast from a statue of Coatlicue, the Mexica, or Aztec, mother goddess, are inverted to reveal their concave sides and reassembled to create a hollow figure. *Do ut des* (2014–19), Castillo Deball's series of perforated books, borrows its title from a Latin phrase meaning "I give so that you will give," and her *Mathematical Distortions* (2012) refers to the shifts in knowledge that occur with shifts in position. Together, the works in the exhibition speak to the place of the viewer, the permeability of surfaces, and ideas of reciprocity and exchange.

"Mariana Castillo Deball: Finding Oneself Outside" is curated by Natalie Bell, Associate Curator.

ABOUT NEW MUSEUM

The New Museum is the only museum in New York City exclusively devoted to contemporary art. Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a center for exhibitions, information, and documentation about living artists from around the world. From its beginnings as a one-room office on Hudson Street to the inauguration of its first freestanding building on the Bowery designed by SANAA in 2007, the New Museum continues to be a place of experimentation and a hub of new art and new ideas.

SUPPORT

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